



Press Alert

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Sunday is the 2022 National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Washingtonians are asked to show their support of law enforcement officers nationwide by promoting National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Olympia, WA - The Washington State Patrol invites all Washingtonians to join in celebrating National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day this Sunday, January 9th. Everyday, police officers across our state and country put on a badge and go to work knowing they may face extremely dangerous situations. For most, being a law enforcement officer is not just a job, it is a calling and this past year that call to service has sometimes been very difficult.

2021 was extraordinary for law enforcement. Not only have law enforcement officers and their families joined with the world in dealing with the health issues of a global pandemic, they have also been charged with maintaining response capacities through rising crime and emergency rates exacerbated by significant economic uncertainties, cultural shifts and political upheaval. Covid itself was the number one killer of law enforcement officers in the US this past year, exceeding gunfire and traffic fatalities.

“Still, we have found triumph in tragedies and remain steadfast in building our profession and communities to reach the ideals of equity and justice for all people,” stated WSP Chief John R. Batiste. “For many of my younger troopers, born long after the political and social turbulence of the 60’s and 70’s, the strains of the past few years have been foreign and disconcerting,” the Chief added. “But along with their more veteran colleagues, they continue to offer excellent service with both humility and courage. How fortunate we all are to be blessed by their professionalism.”

On January 9th, please take a moment to show your appreciation for law enforcement professionals at all local, county, state, federal and international levels.

- Wear blue clothing in solidarity with police officers.
- Thank a police officer for their service.
- Turn your social media channel blue.
- Fly a blue ribbon on your car antenna, mailbox, or anywhere a ribbon can be tied.
- Send a card of support to your local police department or state agency.
- Share a positive story about a law enforcement experience on social media.

Let us make sure the men and women who protect and serve our communities know we value and support them even and especially in these troubled times.

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